

# Elkstone Newsletter

31<sup>st</sup> Year: No. 9 (332)

June 2015

## Editor's Bit

Spring is in full flow with lush green growth in fields, on trees and in hedges. Many animals and birds are producing young, which have to learn to survive in our speeding, harsh environment. Did anyone else watch the magnificent hawk flying around the village?

*Reg - 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015*

Features	
Neighbourhood Watch Thankyou for Sainsbury's vouchers Nature Notes	Gardens Open Day – stalls & BBQ Village Hall Tearoom Adverts
One Really Important Date for your Diary	
Gardens Open Day – Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	
Regular Dates	
Waste & recycling	Food + garden waste - Fridays
Waste & recycling	All bags, bins + boxes – Fridays 5 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> June
Watercolour Painting	Every Tuesday - Village Hall - 10am – <i>Yvette Levick 870485</i>
Indoor Bowls	Every Tuesday - Village Hall – <i>Trevor - 870246</i>
Deadline for next month's edition: <b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June</b> please	
The Elkstone web-site has current and past copies of the Newsletter – <a href="http://www.elkstonevillage.com">www.elkstonevillage.com</a>	
<b><i>Reg Eyre – High Beech – 870375 – <a href="mailto:reg.eyre@tesco.net">reg.eyre@tesco.net</a></i></b>	

## Elkstone Church Services

June 7th- no service

June 14th- Family Service 10.00 am Rev Joan Hobbs

June 21st - Holy Communion 11.00am Rev Cliff Pooley

June 28th - Songs of Praise 10.00am David Pierce

*David Pierce*

## Successful Wine Tasting

“Wine is constant proof that God loves us and loves to see us happy”

Benjamin Franklin, 1706 -1790.

Almost 50 happy Elkstonians, new, old, past and present were living proof of Franklin's aphorism in the Village Hall on the evening of 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Even the oenophiles amongst us were teased to identify 6 wines made by winemakers with growing international reputations from Greece, Portugal, Spain and Italy: all made from indigenous grape varieties and traditional methods. Great fun was shared, as we progressed through the 3 reds and 3 whites, comparing notes and lively opinions. Some of the wines everyone liked. Others polarized opinion between loved and hated. Such is the nature of wines with strong personalities and characters drunk by people of a similar disposition.

Competition was keen and good-humoured with the winning team sharing a case of one of the Italian wines tasted. The losing team was awarded a bag of wine gums, which seemed appropriate and very much well received in the spirit given.

The evening ended with a buffet supper over which people lingered, some until the midnight hour was approaching: in wine terms, a long and satisfying finish.

Thanks to everyone who helped with preparing the hall, pouring the wine, serving food and dispensing coffee and tea. Those who attended, and several others were generous with their donations of salads, cold and hot dishes, cheese boards and a tempting selection of puddings. Special thanks to all of you!

The extra fizz is that we are able to contribute a surplus of £168 to Village Hall overheads. Cheers and here's to the next one

*Brain Howlett and David Pierce*

### **Neighbourhood Watch News**

It is really disappointing to be reporting that sheep worrying is happening again this year. Many local farmers rely on sheep for their income and cannot afford to lose sheep to dogs that are not under close control as the law requires. Please do ensure that dogs are on leads when passing through livestock, and please keep to public routes at all times.

This was circulated on the Watchword system:

“Between 20.30hrs Saturday 9th May 2015 and 08.45hrs Sunday 10th May 2015 one lamb was killed and 9 badly injured with bites to the neck on all 9 and some of the 9 had bites to the rear. This occurred in Woodmancote in a field where there are no public rights of way. This will be costly to the farmer.

Somebody will have been irresponsible in allowing their dog(s) to get in amongst the lambs and cause such carnage; there could have been another walker who may have witnessed this – if you have any information which will assist Police ring 101 and quote Incident 272 11/05/15 or email PCD Victoria Stinchcombe [Vicky.Stinchcombe@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Vicky.Stinchcombe@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk) direct.”

**\*\*\*Farmers have the right to shoot dogs seen worrying any livestock (not only sheep) this has happened recently in this very area\*\*\***

Trailers still seem to be the target of thieves, so please do keep them very securely locked up.

*Julia Davey - Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator*

Please may we remind Parishioners who have public footpaths crossing their land, to keep them clear. This is particularly important during the growing season and in advance of **Open Day** when so many more people will be walking around.

*Michael*

### **Sainsbury's Vouchers**

Many thanks to people who have kindly posted Sainsbury Active Kids vouchers through our door. I have taken them in to my school, Coberley School, and we hope to buy our new outdoor equipment soon.

Thank You

*Hannah Davey*

### **Nature Notes – June**

The end of June is the time of Midsummer and its association the Summer Solstice and the Longest Day. The days are long and the nights short, summer is now in full swing and the countryside is lush with our hedgerows, grassland and woodland bursting with growth. Most trees have now sprouted their new leaves and the succession of plants and flowers is in full flow filling up the landscape and truly banishing any of the remaining bareness of previous months.

Delights this month include trying to spot the amazing neon-like glow of the elusive glow worm in our grassland areas, the shy appearance of delicate natural orchids (of which there are 56 varieties found in the UK) and the emergence of damsel and dragon flies from our ponds and streams.

The survivors of the overwintering butterflies (we seem to have a lot of Peacocks this year) are now coming to the end of their lives to be replaced by the new summer ones. The mixed nature of the weather recently with quite a few cold wind weeks seems to have stifled the number of butterflies I have noticed when out and about. Bees are working hard gathering pollen and nectar, and with the nights getting warmer bats, badgers and moths are very active.

The birdsong of May has become a little more muted in June as the breeding season is in full swing with many birds working hard to find enough food to satisfy their nestlings. Chaffinches, goldfinches, greenfinches, sparrows and wrens however keep on singing. This is the time of year I look forward to seeing the small flocks of yellow hammers in their full summer plumage on our farmland margins.

In addition to taking in nature around us last year was Laurie Lee's centenary year and as part of a series of events to mark the occasion the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust installed 11 poetry posts throughout the Slad Valley. These posts are inscribed with Laurie Lee's poetry and are linked together by the Laurie Lee Wildlife Way. A guide leaflet and further details are available from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.

Also the Bristol Festival of Nature takes place at the harbour side on the weekend of 13-14 June. This is the UK's largest nature festival that brings together over 150 organisations and provides a programme of activities, entertainment and a market.

Lots to do and see; enjoy yourselves.

*Francis*

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust – Laurie Lee Way  
<http://www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/laurielee>

Bristol Festival of Nature  
<http://visitbristol.co.uk/whats-on/bristol-festival-of-nature-2015-p1484133>

### **Gardens Open Day - Sunday 7th June**

Thank you once again to everyone who has kindly agreed to open their gardens, it is so much appreciated. I know how hard everyone works to get their garden in tiptop condition for the day.

We are very short on bric a brac and plants, so we would be grateful if you could have sort out anything, that would be appreciated. It can be dropped off anytime at the Hawthorns opposite the village hall. Should we not be in, you can leave it by the back door and we will put it in the garage. Also Dave and Sue Collins are doing a tombola stall so any bottles etc. can be left at their house.

Steve and Julia have once again kindly agreed to do the barbecue in the evening and it would be great to see you all in the evening for a get together.

Now all we need is the weather something that I cannot organize for the day.

*Tess* - [teresa.dick@btinternet.com](mailto:teresa.dick@btinternet.com) - 870480  
[marion.cooch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marion.cooch@hotmail.co.uk).

### **Village Hall Tearoom**

Please can you help on or before Sunday 7th June?

We are hoping to offer the usual cakes, biscuits and home made jam in our tearoom.

Will you make something for us to sell? Most of our provisions are eaten in the cafe, but some visitors take their purchases home with them. So feel free to make anything you think may be suitable.

On the actual day we will be in the hall from 1.00pm onwards to receive, set out and price our goods.

Would you like to be a waitress/waiter for an hour or so?

Do you prefer to help in the kitchen? Or be a salesperson?

If we have a few volunteers we can all spend some time looking at the gardens and stalls as well as being on duty in the hall.

Please let us know and we can draw up a rota for the day. It's always a busy afternoon, but we all seem to enjoy it!

*Jennie Howlett*

### **Advertisements**

#### **Rendcomb Surgery Patients' Support Group**

##### **Open Garden**

Daglingworth House,

Daglingworth,

GL7 7AG.

Tuesday, 2nd June 2015

5.00pm – 7.30pm

Entrance £2.00, (includes tea/coffee and cake)

*Ample parking in village and Church car park*

**Everyone welcome**

#### **Free 'Cello Recital**

Philip Gwilt will be playing Mozart Suite no.1 in G Major BWV 1007, Suite no.2 in D Minor BWV 1008 and Suite no.5 in C Minor BWV 1011 on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 7.30pm at Cirencester Baptist Church, Coxwell Street.

Entry is free and there will be a retiring collection in aid of St. James's Place Foundation and Cirencester Baptist Church Building Fund.

*Reg*